(c) Does not arise.

(d) The amendment proposed is not Industry-specific. Therefore , no decision for any specific type of industry has been taken. However, the provisions of the proposed Bill provide for consultation with the representatives of employers and workers by the State Government or any person authorized by them before granting permission for night shift work by women.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) The proposed Bill will empower the State Governments for allowing the necessary flexibility in employment of women during night shift in factories. The State Governments are already empowered for framing suitable rules under the Act. Therefore, such a decision will be taken by them.

(h) Does not arise.

Unemployment allowance

†4576. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for giving unemployment allowance to the unemployed persons is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the annual percentage of the growth rate in the number of unemployed people in the country along with the initiative being taken by the Government to put a check on this growth rate; and

(d) the likely number of unemployed persons at the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan in the country and the initiative being taken by the Government to bring it down?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) There is no scheme under consideration of the Central Government for giving Unemployment allowance to the unemployed persons.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As per the National Sample Surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), number of unemployed persons as per Current Daily Status approach has been estimated at 20.13 million in 1993-94 and 26 58 million in 1999-2000. The Average Growth Rate of unemployed per annum during 1993-94 to 1999-2000 works out to be around 4.74.

Government is targeting creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th Plan period with special emphasis on labour intensive sectors such as agriculture, irrigation, agro-forestry, small and medium enterprises, information communication technology, tourism and other services.

As per Tenth Plan document, at the end of Tenth Plan number of unemployed persons is estimated at 21.15 million in 2006-07

Jobs to youths in foreign countries

†4577. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered against persons involved in cheating by way of giving allurement of jobs to youths in foreign countries during the last three years alongwith state-wise details thereof,

(b) the number of persons against whom action was taken in the cases so registered and the steps taken by Government to provide assistance to the affected persons; and

(c) the effective steps taken so far by Government to check forgery and cheating with youths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) During the years 2002, 2003 and 2004, the number of complaints filed with the State Police Authorities against the illegal/un-registered recruiting agents were 47, 27 and 34 respectively. The State-wise details are given in the Statement. (*See* below)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi